RG56 Entry 289 Box 4 100

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Mr. Bradford
to
Mr. Tyler

June 12. 1839

Filed by Mr. Tyler

T. S.

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4 100

U. S. B. Mint New Orleans
Superintendents Office
June 12th 1839.

Sir

I have just received a letter from the Director of the mint, dated the 4th inst. of which the following is an extract

"I am sorry that I overlooked your question as to the old dies. The course to be taken is to deface them effectually either by a hammer, or by Nitric acid, or by heating them and cutting a cross on their face by a chisel. This should be done by the Coiner in your presence, and a report of the destroyed dies sent to me, so that a corresponding note may be inserted in the Register which is kept here, of dies forwarded to the Branch Mints. When the dies are thoroughly defaced, the steel may be employed by the Coiner, for any useful purpose to which it is applicable."

The following extracts from the letters of the Director to me, and from me to him, of last year will afford the requisite information of the number & denominations of dies sent to this Branch Mint by the Director last year and received in due course of the mail viz.'

April 19th 1838 The director writes me "I send you to day thro' the Secretary of the Treasury a box containing two pairs of dies for striking dimes.

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4 100

April 11th 1838 The Director writes me "I wrote to you on the 9th by the ordinary mail to state that I had that day sent a set of dies for your Mint to the Secretary of the Treasury with a request that he would forward them to you under his frank. They were half dollar dies"

(discrepancy)

May 3rd 1838 I wrote to the Director a letter of which the following is an extract viz: Your letters of the 9th 11th & 16th Inst have been received and are now before me. The half dollar, dime and half dime dies have arrived safe and in good order" (the letter of the 16th says nothing of dies.)

The foregoing is all the written information of record respecting the dies of last year, I have in this Office

As I wish to report the destruction of dies of last year, if practicable by the next mail, I have to request that they be cut across with a chisel in the Blacksmiths shop in this Branch Mint to morrow at any time before 9 O.clock A.M. you may fix on, and let me know so that I may be present and see them "thoroughly defaced"

Yr Hum. Sert

David Bradford

Supt

Rufus Tyler Esq

Coiner Br. Mint N.O.

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4 100

P. S. I omitted on the opposite page, after the 15th line, to insert the following – (which you will consider as done) to wit, "May 22nd 1838 I wrote the Director" the 25 cents dies have arrived." " ~~[illegible]~~ D. B. Superintendent.